8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut MM2

mechanical equipment required for irrigation construction and maintenance in order to release work oxen for field operations. Up to the present shortage of equipment, break-downs and delays in obtaining spares have made it necessary to employ large numbers of working cattle on earth-moving and general irrigation works.

The Board also owns a fleet of twelve diesel-engined crawler tractors for ploughing work. Considerable difficulties have been encountered in maintaining this tractor fleet.

Administration of the Scheme

The present composition of the Board is :

British Agent, Western Aden Protectorate	Chairman.
Director of Agriculture, Aden Protectorate	Managing Director.
Senior Political Officer, Southern Area	Director.
Two Representatives, (Fadhli State)	Members.
Two Representatives, (Yafa'i State)	Members.
Manager, Abyan Board	Secretary.

The Board is responsible for the construction and maintenance of capital works and of main and minor canals ; the development of new land for irrigation ; the delivery of water to the land ; provision of marketing and credit facilities to farmers, when necessary.

The Board receives one-quarter share of the crops grown. This is now based on a cash payment of *Shs.*40 per effectively cropped acre for all crops other than cotton. The assessed amount is deducted from the cash payment made for the cotton crop.

The Board in the 1952–53 season made a cultivation advance of *Shs.*90 per acre of effectively established, thinned and cleaned cotton.

The Board provides seed-cotton packs and conducts weekly markets at convenient centres throughout the area. The cotton is classified at the markets by an expert cotton classifier. Each pack carries the grower's identification number, the weight as recorded at the sale and the market identification letter. A record is made of quantities sold at each market by growers and cash is paid after deduction of the Board's share. The cotton is ginned and baled in a ginnery equipped and run by the Board. The whole of the graded lint is sold under a long-term contract with the Raw Cotton Commission. The Abyan X.1730A is regarded by buyers as equal to Sudan grown crop of similar type.

Tenants make up and maintain bunds and field channels, cultivate specified crops as the Board directs, pay the crop share due, and deliver crops such as cotton to markets as directed.

Landlords, if owner occupiers, cultivate their own land and follow